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on the holder and are constructed to individually release or grip a chip-carrier plate in a similar angular position of the holder.

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, immediately after the title, please insert:

### Related Applications

This application claims the benefit of the European application 01 126 708.5 filed November 8, 2001.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 11, as follows:

#### Background of the Invention

### Field of the Invention

The invention relates to a mechanism for exchanging chip-carrier plates in a hybrid chipbonding machine, in particular to an automatic hybrid chip-bonding machine.

## Description of the Related Art

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 16, as follows:

## Summary of the Invention

It is the objective of the present invention to disclose an improved mechanism for exchanging chip-carrier plates as well as a method of operating such a mechanism, with which still greater operating efficiency can be attained, and hence lower production costs for chip bonding.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 26, as follows:

# Brief Description of the Drawings

A preferred embodiment of a chip-carrier-plate system in accordance with the invention is described in greater detail in the following, with reference to the attached drawings, wherein

Fig. 1 shows a schematic overall view of the components of an automatic hybrid chipbonding machine;

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Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 3, as follows:

## Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment

Fig. 1 shows the principles of construction of an automatic hybrid chip-bonding machine 1, which comprises on one hand an epoxy die bonder 2 and on the other hand a die collet system 4 for chip assembly, which are the actual processing stations. The chip-bonding machine 1 further comprises a chip-delivery system 6 and a chip-detaching system 8. The chip-delivery system 6 includes a magazine 10 to contain a plurality of chip-carrier plates as well as the actual delivery mechanism, which is the object of the invention. Chip-bonding machines of this kind have long been known, so that their construction and the interaction of the main components need not be described further here.

#### IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the Claims as follows:

#### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

(Amended) A mechanism for exchanging chip-carrier plates for use in a hybrid 1. chip-bonding machine having a chip-detaching system and a common base element, the mechanism comprising:

a plurality of chip-carrier plates;

a magazine to store the plurality of chip-carrier plates;

a transport arrangement having a first and a second clamping device that are disposed on a movable holder in a manner such that the transport arrangement is designed to remove a selected chip-carrier plate from the magazine, deliver the selected chipcarrier plate to a processing station of the chip-detaching system, and after processing remove the selected chip-carrier plate from the processing station and deposit the selected

chip-carrier plate in the magazine;

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